



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

IN CHARGE OF

EDNA L. FOLEY, R. N.

KENTUCKY AND TENNESSEE—Nan L. Dorsey (The Moses Taylor Hospital, Scranton, Pa.), has resigned as superintendent of the District Nursing Association of Louisville and has accepted the appointment of assistant director of the Department of Health Conservation and Public Health Nursing of Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tenn., and is, in addition, to organize the Public Health Nursing Association of that city. The president of the College is also president of the Public Health Nursing Association and the work will be closely affiliated with the College. The field work of both nurses and teachers in the College will be directed by Miss Dorsey. Dora M. Barnes, (Mt. Holyoke College, Johns Hopkins Hospital and Teachers College) is director of the Department. This is a wonderful opportunity for southern nurses and they will not fail to take advantage of it. Marie H. Bell (Sherman Hospital, Elgin, Ill.), a graduate of the Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy and a former Visiting Nurse Association supervisor, has succeeded Miss Dorsey in Louisville.

MICHIGAN—Wanda Przewski, formerly with the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago, writes from Jackson, where she is supervisor of the public health nurses in the Health Department:

The infant welfare has developed very well. Our prenatal work is started slowly, but nevertheless we are going to succeed in it. Fortunately contagion is very low and we can give more time to other phases of our work.

MONTANA—The Children's Bureau has recently added to its staff several public health nurses, including Mrs. Barbara H. Bartlett (Minneapolis City Hospital and Teachers College), who is at present in Wyoming, and Janet M. Geister (Sherman Hospital, Elgin, Ill., and The Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy), who sends this message from Montana:

Ninety-eight miles from the nearest 'phone, railroad or telegraph wire. This work is fascinating. I never have met such splendid people as these ranchers, nor any in greater need of public health work. You have no idea of the isolation of these people. We drive miles and miles over dim trails, across the hills and buttes before we find the tiny little one-room shacks that folks live in. We can't possibly get back to this little community every night. we carry tarpaulins and sleep in haystacks. The experience is doing us a world of good. We leave in five minutes for some of the most beautiful country in the west, the Brakes, up by the Missouri River. We will travel by auto, afoot, horseback, and will not return until Sunday. I wear a khaki-colored flannel riding suit, mountain boots and not much else; when we go to bed we undress by taking off our hats and putting on heavy coats.

Mary Trihey (St. James Hospital, Butte), has been appointed county nurse for Teton County.

MAINE—The October Bulletin of the Maine Anti-Tuberculosis Association gives a list of the public health nurses in Maine. At present ten are working in various localities and five more are to be placed as soon as they can be found. Maine is having the same difficulty in filling old positions and new positions that other states seem to have. The Bulletin makes a plea for greater interest in public health from graduates of training schools and better preparation for public health nursing work. Probably there will always be a shortage of well-trained workers in every field of effort, but there are nurses enough in the country to fill many of these positions if knowledge of the necessary preparation could be brought to nurses able and sufficiently ambitious to avail themselves of it. Once the nurses are prepared for public health work, employers must learn to recognize the value of this preparation. In many places, now, it means additional responsibilities and decidedly inadequate compensation. However, nearly everyone knows that it is necessary for an untried worker to "deliver the goods" before her real value in any piece of work is appreciated, and nurses who have succeeded in making their work indispensable have not, as a rule, found it difficult to convince county and city boards and other agencies that good work is worth paying for. But we cannot put too much stress on the fact that hospital training is only the foundation for good public health nursing work; special training is absolutely essential for the average nurse who wants to succeed in this field. To quote from the Maine Bulletin:

No new fields have been organized because it seems impossible to find nurses "with the vision" for public health work. An excellent nurse for hospital or bedside care is not of necessity a good nurse for public health work in which there is practically no bedside care. A nurse quick to meet an emergency in bedside care, may be absolutely lost in trying to solve the economic, sanitary or social problems constantly confronting the public health nurse in fighting tuberculosis.

The very unusual woman may, perhaps, succeed in any position if given time to learn by her own mistakes, but most of us are not very unusual women and practical work under excellent supervision, and post graduate work are absolutely indispensable if we are going to succeed in helping to solve some of the many difficult problems in our public health campaign.

ILLINOIS—The public health nurses of Chicago have formed a Red Cross Auxiliary with a membership of nearly 100, and are meeting every other Sunday at the Chicago Nurses' Club House, to knit for the soldiers. At the first meeting, Ella Phillips Crandall spoke on the work of the joint Committee on Nursing Service, and Currie Breckenridge, recently home from France, spoke about nursing in French hospitals and with the American Ambulance in Paris. Mrs. William Hubbard, who was elected chairman of the Auxiliary, told us about the work of the various auxiliaries

and how to form one. Helen W. Kelly, superintendent of School Nurses, and Rosalind Mackay, superintendent of the Tuberculosis Visiting Nurses, were elected vice-chairman and secretary of the Auxiliary.

A community nurse who seems to be very much interested in organizing a very new piece of public health nursing in a small town in Illinois, and whose previous work had been confined almost entirely to large cities, found that the difference between the two types of towns was very striking, although not entirely unsurmountable by a nurse who had had good training in social work as well as in the public health field. She writes as follows:

Physically the work is strenuous, but it is very much worth while. It is slow work and little co-operation was received until the worth of the venture had been demonstrated. The president of one prominent women's group, in discussing families with me, said: "We realize that we are pauperizing, but what is the remedy?" As in all small communities, the average citizen is intent upon his own business and his own home. He has no time for anything else and doesn't seem to think of himself as one of the community. Even when working with a group, he is so jealous of the good name of his own group that he is willing to interfere with the activities of any other group which seems in any way to overshadow his. One very influential man said: "The work is good and very necessary, but was not consulted before it was started, nor put on any committees, so why should my assistance be required now? I will do nothing to further the cause."

Many people passing through here in motors would think the country heavenly and poverty and suffering impossible in such surroundings, but I have not seen worse living conditions in Chicago than I have found in two or three spots here. Humanity seems very much the same; we have a goodly crop of disease and misery. If I can only teach all of them, not merely the handful of destitute poor, but every middle-class citizen in this little middle-class community, how to live sanely and wholesomely, I shall feel that my efforts have not been in vain, though I am being unmercifully snubbed and getting all sorts of hard knocks. I enjoy it, however; my first month was very difficult and I almost gave up, but a few people had become interested and they begged me to stay longer. Now I feel sure that the work is very nearly established and I am going to see results from it before long.

Nurses who have never worked in a small town may think this an unduly pessimistic letter. It is printed, however, to give us some idea of the mountains which our pioneer nurses must scale.